

**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Shiro HAMADA

International Appln. No.: PCT/JP00/06878

Filed: Concurrently herewith

Attorney Dkt. No.: 107443-00023

For: LASER DRILLING METHOD AND DRILLING APPARATUS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 22031  
**Attention: PCT DO/EO/US**

April 5, 2002

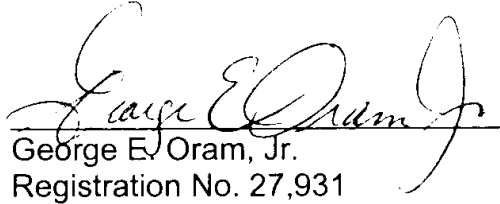
Sir:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement submitted under 37 C.F.R.1.97 within the time specified under 37 CFR 1.97(b).

The references cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 were cited in the enclosed International Search Report issued by the Japanese Patent Office in connection with the above international application. It is understood that the Japanese Patent Office has sent a copy of each of the cited references to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. If this is not the case, please contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below. However, for the Examiner's convenience, the cited references are attached hereto.

In view of the above, all requirements of 37 CRF 1.97 and all official guidelines pertaining to Information Disclosure Statements have been complied with, and it is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the references and make them of record.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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